

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 09475 180505Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----009378 180507Z /17

O 180509Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6593
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 09475

EXDIS

DEPT PASS JCS/ NMCC NIACT IMMEDIATE

E. O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: MOPS INS CASC CG BE
SUBJECT: SHABA INCURSION: BELGIAN DECISION TO EFFECT RESCUE
OF BELGIAN AND FOREIGN NATIONALS FROM SHABA

REF WALKER-TOWELL TELCON

AFTER MORE THAN TWO HOUR DELIBERATION EARLY MORNING MAY 18,
BELGIAN CABINET MADE DECISION TO PROCEED TO PUT INTO EFFECT
PLANS TO RESCUE BELGIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS FROM KOLWEZI
WITH FIRST PHASE OF PLAN TO START AT 11:00 AM MAY 18, LOCAL
TIME. FOREIGN MINISTERS CHEF DE CABINET ALFRED CAHEN INFORMED
US OF DECISION AT 6 AM AND BELGIAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAVE
BEEN IN TOUCH WITH U.S. DEFENSE ATTACHE, WHO ARE REPORTING
BY SEPTTEL.

CAHEN SAID THAT GREAT BRITAIN HAS TOLD BELGIANS THEY ARE READY
TO BE OF ASSISTANCE IF NECESSARY, INCLUDING POSSIBLE LOGISTICAL
SUPPRT AND USE OF ASCENSION ISLAND. HE SAID BELGIANS HAVE BEEN
IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH FRENCH BUT PARIS HAS MADE NO DECISION AS
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YET.

CAHEN SAID HE EXPECTED POSITIVE FRENCH RESPONSE, MORNING MAY 18
CONTAINING INCLUSION OF FRENCH TROOPS, WHICH HE SAID WOULD MAKE
THE OPERATION MORE OF A COMBINED OPERATION. CHAMBERS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED JCS/NMCC.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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